

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested. No new matter has been added.

Specification

The abstract was rejected for being too long. It has been amended herein to be less than 150 words. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this basis for objection be withdrawn.

35 USC § 101

Claims 1-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because allegedly the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-27 have been canceled and new claims 72-77 clarify that the methods are computer-implemented and that certain operations are conducted by at least one processor.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

35 USC § 112

Claim 28 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claim 28 has been canceled making this rejection moot.

Claims 1-54 stand rejected as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-54 have been canceled also making this rejection moot.

35 USC § 102

Claims 1-54 stand rejected under section 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Gronau et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0069869). These rejections are respectfully traversed. Notwithstanding, claims 1-54 have been canceled making this rejection moot.

New claim 72 finds support, *inter alia*, in original claim 1.

New claim 77 recites: “a computer-implemented method comprising: constructing, using at least one processor, a plurality of decision models, the decision models linking goals of an enterprise to actions the enterprise can undertake and variables that can affect outcome of the actions, the decision models allowing the creation and evaluation of a plurality of strategies; performing a sensitivity analysis on each decision model using at least one processor to determine intermediate variables that drive value, the intermediate variables being dependent on decision keys; determining, using at least one processor, which decision keys are most relevant for predicting which decision keys will drive value; connecting, using at least one processor, decisions, decision keys, intermediate variables, and value in each decision model; encoding, using at least one processor, information into each decision model; and enabling, using at least one processor, access to the decision models in order to evaluate strategies (for support, see, *inter alia*, specification page 21, lines 8-24).

Gronau fails to disclose or suggest many aspects of the newly submitted claims. It will be noted that the previous rejection was based solely only of the modules included in Gronau (due in part to the use of the “providing any of” language).

Accordingly, the claims should be allowable.

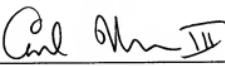
Concluding Comments

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment. Applicant asks that all claims be allowed.

If there are any questions regarding these amendments and remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. A three-month extension of time is hereby petitioned. Authorization for a credit card payment of the three-month extension fee is submitted herewith. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 35006-556F01US.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 12, 2009



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